

MR. BASEBALL, RICHARD A. SAUGET, TURNS 60

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Richard A. Sauget, an outstanding citizen, community leader, business entrepreneur, husband, father, and grandfather. His distinguished contributions and accomplishments have improved the economic prosperity, social welfare, and individual lives of so many people in Southwestern Illinois and the St. Louis region.

Richard A. Sauget was born on April 21, 1944. He was raised by his parents, Vincent and Estelle Sauget, in the Village of Sauget, which was founded by Rich's grandfather, Leo. Rich continues to reside in Sauget with his wife, Judee. The Sauget family was one of the first to settle in the area. Rich and Judee have five children, three grandchildren, and one grandchild on the way. His Catholic faith and family have always been his priorities.

After graduating with a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and a M.A. from St. Mary's University, Rich began a successful professional baseball career. He played baseball with the Atlanta Braves and San Francisco Giants. During his career, he served as a backup for Joe Torre and a catcher for the great Satchel Paige.

Rich Sauget continues to be involved in baseball. Starting with the Sauget Wizards, a semi-professional team in the Mon-Clair Baseball League, Rich brought professional-level baseball to Southwestern Illinois. Today, his passion is the Gateway Grizzlies Baseball Team, a team he founded. Rich, a managing partner of the Grizzlies, was the driving force in designing and building the new Grizzlies GMC stadium in 2002. By the way, the Gateway Grizzlies won the Frontier League Championship in 2003.

Rich serves on several prominent sports association boards, including the St. Louis Sports Commission, Southwestern Illinois Officials Organization, the St. Louis Professional Baseball Scouts Association, and is the current president of the Frontier Professional Baseball League.

In addition to his sports accomplishments, Rich has been a highly-successful business entrepreneur. He is the founder and president of East County Enterprises, Inc., a real estate management company that has been in business for more than 35 years. East County Enterprises manages various properties in several Southwestern Illinois communities. The company has provided job opportunities and generated business growth in the region.

Rich Sauget is a dedicated community leader with a strong commitment to service. He has volunteered a great deal of time to the economic development of the St. Louis Metropolitan area by serving on many prominent boards, including the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association, the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois, the St. Louis Regional Business Council, the St. Louis Lam-

bert Airport Commission, and the Missouri Historical Society Board. He is the Chairman of the St. Clair County Building Commission which oversees the development of MidAmerica St. Louis Airport.

For years, Rich has emphasized the importance of bringing together and developing the entire St. Louis region as one united community, including a highly-integrated airport transportation system. His vision includes the eventual formation of a Regional Airport Authority to provide the St. Louis region with more efficient passenger, cargo, and maintenance services.

As chairman of the board of Touchette Regional Hospital and a member of the board of Kenneth Hall Hospital, Rich has been instrumental in the development and expansion of healthcare services to low income families, specifically underprivileged women and children, in the Southwestern Illinois region.

To further serve the Southwestern Illinois/St. Louis region, Rich has been working to develop a strong business leadership group, Archview Communities Economic Development Corporation. Archview is designed to enhance economic, social, and business development opportunities by facilitating partnerships between government programs, local municipalities, the area's healthcare network, the local education system, and many regional business owners.

It should also be noted that both Rich and Judee Sauget are involved in many charitable organizations in Illinois and Missouri.

Richard A. Sauget leads by example and sets a very high standard for all of us to follow. I congratulate him for his impressive accomplishments and heartfelt service to his community and look forward to many more years of working with him.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### NOTIFICATION OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER BLOCKING THE PROPERTY OF CERTAIN PERSONS AND PROHIBITING THE EXPORT OF CERTAIN GOODS TO SYRIA—PM 76

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Consistent with subsection 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b) (IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1631, I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (order) in which I declared a national emergency with respect to the threat constituted by certain actions of the Government of Syria. Further, in accordance with subsection 5(b) of the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003 (SAA), Public Law 108-175, this message also constitutes the report of my exercise of the waiver authority pursuant to that statute.

On December 12, 2003, I signed into law the SAA in order to strengthen the ability of the United States to effectively confront the threat to U.S. national security posed by Syria's support for terrorism, its military presence in Lebanon, its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, and its actions to undermine U.S. and international efforts with respect to the stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq. These policies by the Government of Syria directly threaten regional stability and undermine the U.S. goal of a comprehensive Middle East peace. Despite many months of diplomatic efforts to convince the Government of Syria to change its behavior, Syria has not taken significant, concrete steps to address the full range of U.S. concerns, which were clearly conveyed by Secretary of State Powell to Syrian President Asad in May 2003. I find the actions, policies, and circumstances described above sufficiently grave to constitute a threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States, and thus have declared a national emergency to address that threat.

In implementation of subsection 5(a) of the SAA, in the order I directed that action be taken to prohibit the export to Syria of products of the United States other than food and medicine, including but not limited to items on the United States Munitions List or Commerce Control List, and I prohibited commercial air services between Syria and the United States by aircraft of any air carrier owned or controlled by Syria, as well as certain non-traffic stops by such aircraft.

It is important to the national security interests of the United States, however, that certain discrete categories of exports continue in order to support activities of the United States Government and United Nations agencies, to facilitate travel by United States persons, for certain humanitarian purposes, to help maintain aviation safety, and to promote the exchange of information. Also, it is important to U.S. national security interests that aviation-related sanctions